

ABSTRACT

The invention is directed to an absorbent article, comprising: a topsheet; a backsheet; an airlaid mixture material disposed between the topsheet and the backsheet. In one aspect of the invention, the airlaid mixture material includes a) cellulosic fibers, and b) thermoplastic fibers having a surface treated with a surfactant including a phosphate ester, a sulfate ester, or a derivative thereof. The cellulosic fibers and the thermoplastic fibers are bonded together to form a thermally bonded airlaid matrix which preferably has dry density of from about 0.04 to about 0.11 g/cc under pressure of 20 gf/cm<sup>2</sup>.